

Advanced Nontoxic Fouling Release Coatings

Dr. Joanne Jones-Meehan of NRL developed and commercialized an environmentally safe coating system for ship hulls and pipeline applications, such as power plant water intakes. This patented coating system reduces the problem of biofouling (the undesired growth of barnacles, mussels, algae, etc.) without the use of toxic metals and biocides by providing a surface to which organisms find it difficult to adhere. There is a pressing need for an environmentally safe method for controlling biofouling to replace current methods that involve metals and other chemicals that are potentially harmful to aquatic life and workers alike.



Dr. Joanne Jones-Meehan

Smart Surfaces, LLC of Annapolis, Md. entered into a licensing agreement with NRL to bring Dr. Meehan-Jones' technology to the marketplace. During the technology transfer process, Dr. Jones-Meehan was involved with testing of the

product on ten ships and at three power plants, as well as the application and inspection of the test coatings.

The coating system, as licensed by Smart Surfaces, will be used on commercial, private and government-owned ships, as well as power

plant water intake systems. Benefits will be realized in a number of areas since workers will no longer be exposed to the potentially harmful chemicals of antifouling paints; the electric power generating industry will save up to \$5 billion a year by avoiding water intake cleanup; and the aquaculture and fishing industries will see a significant reduction in the number of lost lines, nets,

and other equipment from biofouling.

Contact: Dr. Joanne Jones-Meehan
(202) 404-6361
jonesmee@ccf.nrl.navy.mil